

IN THE CLAIMS

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) A stand alone credit-card sized apparatus capable of receiving and processing audio signals, comprising:

a power source;

an audio or visual output device;

an input device capable of receiving human voice inputs;

a data processing device configured to process human voice inputs received by the input device and to generate a packet of digital data indicating a result of the processing; and

transmission circuitry adapted to modulate an audio or visual signal with the packet of digital data and transmit the modulated audio or visual signal through the audio-output device.

23. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the audio-output device comprises a device for outputting human-audible sounds.

24-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, comprising a database of voice patterns and wherein the data processing device is adapted to compare human voice inputs to the voice patterns of the database.

36. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the data processing device is adapted to activate an application if a match is found in the comparison.

37. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, comprising a data provision unit and wherein the data processing device is adapted to activate the data provision unit, if a match is found in the comparison.

38. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the data provision unit comprises a magnetic strip.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the data processing device is adapted to compare human voice inputs to the voice patterns of the database, with regard to the general voice characteristics.

41. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the data processing device is adapted to compare human voice inputs to the voice patterns of the database, with regard to their word content.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the transmission circuitry is adapted to transmit the packet of digital data through the ~~audio~~-output device on an ultrasound signal.

44. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the transmission circuitry is adapted to transmit the packet of digital data through ~~an~~the audio output device, modulated on an human audible signal.

45. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the packet includes user identification data.

46. (Previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the packet includes a digitization of a human voice input.

47. (Currently amended) A method of processing audio signals, comprising:
receiving a human voice input by a stand alone credit-card sized apparatus;
processing the human voice input by the credit card sized apparatus, so as to generate a packet of digits indicating a result of the processing;
modulating an audio or visual signal with the packet of digits; and

transmitting the modulated audio or visual signal through an ~~audio~~ output device of the stand alone credit-card sized apparatus.

48. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 47, wherein transmitting the modulated audio signal comprises transmitting over a telephone network.

49. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 47, comprising receiving the modulated audio signal by a computerized system through a regular sound card.

50. (New) A stand alone credit-card sized apparatus capable of receiving and processing audio signals, comprising:

a power source;

an output device adapted to output at least one of human-perceptible sights and sounds;

an input device capable of receiving human voice inputs;

a data processing device configured to process human voice inputs received by the input device and to generate a result of the processing; and

emission circuitry adapted to provide a human perceptible signal representing the result, through the audio output device.

51. (New) A credit-card sized apparatus capable of receiving and processing audio signals, comprising:

a power source;

an audio output device;

an input device capable of receiving human voice inputs;

a data processing device configured to process human voice inputs received by the input device and to generate a packet of digital data indicating a result of the processing; and

transmission circuitry adapted to modulate an audio ultrasound signal with the packet of digital data and transmit the modulated audio signal through the audio output device.